

Leanne came to Idaho from Illinois in the early 1990s and helped manage a complex and very public transition with one of the Idaho National Laboratory's facilities, INL, the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant. She has spent 30 years working to improve the working environment of the companies who have employed her. And she has succeeded admirably. She has a personable manner that makes everyone feel comfortable, and she has an unerring sense of how best to resolve conflicts and address other challenges.

Most recently, Leanne worked as the protocol officer at the INL, which was a terrific fit. She always handled herself well and dealt with tough situations without ever losing her poise.

INL's reputation has increased nationally and internationally, and Leanne's efforts have been essential to the process. She always goes above and beyond to make sure each visitor to INL feels like they are a special guest.

We have particularly appreciated Leanne's relationship with our own Senate offices. Her professionalism was always top notch, her knowledge of the INL is superb and her ability to communicate and work easily with others is among the finest we have seen. When schedules are tight and people were stressed, Leanne had the ability to rise above it all and navigate the pitfalls with style, grace and ease.

We would be remiss if we didn't mention Leanne and her family and their involvement in the local community. She was an active volunteer with the Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce serving as co-chair on the Legislative Committee and always did an outstanding job in each of her assignments.

As she nears retirement, we join many others in thanking her for her service to her community and the state of Idaho. She has done an outstanding job at the INL, one that will be hard for others to fill. We wish her the best in her retirement, knowing that she isn't one to stay still for long. Thank you, Leanne, and enjoy your future endeavors.●

#### TRIBUTE TO PASTOR WILLIAM L. ROBINSON

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate William L. Robinson as he celebrates 28 years as pastor of First Baptist Church in North Little Rock. First Baptist is the oldest Black church in North Little Rock, and under Pastor Robinson's leadership, the congregation has thrived for nearly 30 years.

From a young age, Pastor Robinson knew his calling. At the age of 12, he was licensed by Dr. T. M. Chambers, then Pastor of Gaines Street Baptist Church in Little Rock. In 1977, at the age of 17, Pastor Robinson became an ordained minister.

An Arkansas native, Pastor Robinson graduated from historic Little Rock

Central High School and earned a bachelor of arts degree in social sciences from Arkansas Baptist College in Little Rock. He is a graduate of Jackson Theological Seminary of Shorter College in North Little Rock.

Recognized as a pillar of the North Little Rock community, Pastor Robinson has been asked to serve in a variety of statewide commissions and leadership roles, including the Martin Luther King Jr. Commission, the Board of Trustees of the William F. Laman Library Commission, and the Executive Board of the Union Rescue Mission and Salvation Army. Pastor Robinson is an Honorary Deputy Sheriff of Pulaski County and a Chaplain of the North Little Rock Police and Sheriff's Office.

Pastor Robinson has also been invited to take part in numerous inaugurations and official events in Arkansas and Washington, DC. He is the visionary of the recently reestablished "4" Church Fellowship and serves currently as president. This fellowship consists of local churches coming together to uplift our Savior and the community through quarterly worship services. Most recently, Pastor Robinson served as cochairman of the First Interfaith Christian Conference, "The Arkansas Gathering," featuring nationally known pastors and more than 100 local pastors and their churches for a 4-day retreat.

Pastor Robinson is also a local radio personality in his own right. For more than 26 years, he has promoted First Baptist's "Sunday Morning at The First," a 1 hour broadcast that airs Sunday evening at 5 p.m., reaching all four corners of Arkansas.

I salute Pastor Robinson and the work he does for North Little Rock and the entire state of Arkansas. Along with all Arkansans, I congratulate him for his years of service, and wish him all the best for the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. FRED BOURLAND

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate Arkansas Dr. Fred Bourland, who was recently named the International Cotton Researcher of the Year by the International Cotton Advisory Committee. Dr. Bourland is a cotton breeder and director of the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture's Northeast Research and Extension Center in Keiser. Dr. Bourland won the award for his innovative cotton breeding achievements.

The Cotton Researcher of the Year award was started in 2009 to help raise awareness of the importance of research to the improvement of the cotton industry and to provide international recognition of exceptional achievements. Dr. Bourland will receive a trophy and \$1,000 prize.

I commend Dr. Bourland for his research, which benefits Arkansas's entire cotton farming community. Through his efforts, he represents the best of our Arkansas values: hard work, dedication, and perseverance. He also

inspires the next generation of Arkansas leaders as a member of the UA team.

As an Arkansas farmer's daughter, and as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I understand firsthand and appreciate the hard work and contributions of our Arkansas agriculture community. Agriculture is the backbone of Arkansas's economy, creating more than 270,000 jobs in the state and providing \$9.1 billion in wages and salaries. In total, agriculture contributes roughly \$15.9 billion to the Arkansas economy each year.

I salute Dr. Bourland and the entire Arkansas agriculture community for their hard work and dedication.●

#### ROGERS-LOWELL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate the Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce for receiving a five star re-accreditation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the highest accreditation a chamber can receive.

Of the 6,936 chambers in the United States, only 249 of are accredited. Of these, only 66 are accredited with five stars, roughly equal to 1 percent of chambers nationwide. Rogers-Lowell is the only five-star chamber in the State of Arkansas.

The Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1922 and is one of the largest chambers in Arkansas. Under the leadership of President and CEO Raymond Burns, members are committed to growing business and building community. I commend Chairman Tom Spillyards, Accreditation Chair Greg Spragg, the Board of Directors, and the entire Chamber membership for their outstanding efforts to better their community.

Located in the center of the booming Northwest Arkansas region and the beautiful Arkansas Ozarks, the Rogers-Lowell area offers quality, growth and opportunity to residents and visitors alike. As one of the most dynamic communities in the region, Rogers and Lowell offer upscale, urban amenities, along with a slower pace, beautiful scenery, and endless outdoor recreational opportunities.

I salute the Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce and the entire Rogers community for their efforts to build and grow their community. As my fellow Arkansans know, our state is a beautiful one, and I am proud to see the Rogers-Lowell Chamber of Commerce receive this prestigious accreditation.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE ROGERS COMMUNITY

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate the residents of Rogers for being named in the "Top 10" list of U.S. small cities, as ranked by Money Magazine.

The community received this recognition for being one of the Nation's